

197811

**SHASTA CASCADE FOREST INDUSTRIES, INC.**

**2080 Moore Rd.  
Redding, CA 96001  
www.scfi.net  
Phone (530) 243-0500 \* Fax (530) 243-4216**



March 06, 2000

Secretary  
U.S. Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K. Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423-001  
Fax- 202-565-9003

**ENTERED  
Office of the Secretary  
MAR 16 2000  
Part of  
Public Record**

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 33842

To Whom It May Concern:

Please include the following statement from our company at your hearing on March 8, 2000. In the awareness of the upcoming BNSF/CN docket time we are faxing our comments, with the original and copies being forwarded via certified mail.

Rail transportation plays a major position in forwarding the forest products shipped from Shasta Cascade Forest Industries, Inc. at Redding, California. Our annual volume is approximately one thousand six hundred (1600) rail cars representing forty-two million dollars (\$42,000,000) in product.

During the past two years our corporation has experience the negative effects of service disruption caused by rail mergers. We believe that the BNSF/CN proposal will lead to another wave of mergers and consolidations. The recent round of railroad mergers of the BN/SF, UP/SP, CN/IC and Conrail transactions have not been fully implemented with the expected benefits still emerging as service stabilizes. We believe that the railroad industry should concentrate on improving existing opportunities rather than focus on additional consolidations.

Thank you for your consideration in allowing our comments to address in this important issue.

Sincerely,

Walt Schneider  
President